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June 6, 2005

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Society honors two Idaho National Laboratory researchers

The American Nuclear Society today announced the selection of two Idaho National Laboratory nuclear engineers to the status of American Nuclear Society Fellow.

Joy Rempe, Ph.D., was selected for her reactor severe accident research and John Ryskamp, Ph.D., was selected for his contributions to the next generation of nuclear power.

"I'm honored that my peers consider my technical accomplishments sufficient to elect me to this position," Rempe stated. As a principal investigator of several research programs at INL, Rempe's work includes computer simulations and high-temperature tests with materials that may become molten and relocate from a reactor core during an accident.

Beginning her education at the University of Missouri at Rolla, Rempe received a doctorate in nuclear engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Recently elected vice-chair/chair-elect to the ANS Thermal Hydraulics Division, Rempe also serves on the Nuclear Technology Editorial Advisory Board.

Rempe's citation acknowledges her "for substantially advancing the science of nuclear technology through her dedicated research efforts and significant publications in the field of nuclear reactor severe accident research. Her work has provided new key insights and tools for understanding severe accident vessel response, late-phase melt progression and heat transfer, and in-vessel retention."

A graduate of Foxborough High School outside of Boston, Mass., Ryskamp began his nuclear career with a science fair project of a model nuclear reactor. "It was made of concrete and wires. A light bulb would glow brighter as the control rods were pulled up," Ryskamp reminisced. "Election to an honor like this has been my goal for twenty-five years."

Ryskamp earned his doctorate in nuclear engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and eventually directed experimentation at the Advanced Test Reactor at INL to demonstrate that nuclear weapons could be disassembled and used as fuel in commercial reactors. Ryskamp's election as an ANS Fellow acknowledges his "outstanding leadership in nuclear reactor design, the Generation IV Technology Roadmap development, test reactor experiment design, and reactor physics analysis."

ANS bestows the Fellow designation on members whose research, invention or leadership has provided significant impact in one or more disciplines of nuclear science and engineering.

The American Nuclear Society is a not-for-profit, international scientific and educational organization. ANS has a diverse membership composed of 10,500 engineers, scientists, administrators and educators who seek to exchange scientific and technical research, encourage scholarship, and disseminate information on nuclear science and technology.

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